

Given a series of details in paragraph form, the reader separates them into a time sequence structure.

UNIT 9
Lesson 1
Understanding Details

TECHNICAL TALK

When you read several paragraphs of a story dealing with a series of dated events, it is hard to remember what happened first, second, and so on. Look for words such as first, second, and finally. Taking careful notes may be of help in remembering this kind of information. Be sure to take down steps and dates and put them in order.

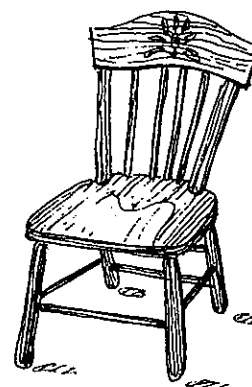
TRY IT

Below is a short paragraph about the history of ancient Rome. Following the paragraph are three facts. Put these facts in the same order that the events occurred.

The first settlements in Rome were probably built around 700 B.C. There is evidence that by 200 B.C., the Romans were using building materials made of a cement substance. However, between 300 and 360 B.C., the city had been nearly destroyed by invaders from Central Europe.

1. Cement was used to build buildings.
2. First settlements occurred in Rome.
3. The city was almost destroyed.

The correct order for these facts is 2, 3, 1.



HOW YOUR CHAIR IS MADE

You may be seated on a wooden chair right now. Do you know how it was made? Actually it has a very interesting history. Read the following selection which tells what happens. Following the selection is a list of steps which you should rearrange on a piece of paper so they are correct. Look at the answer key and see if you are right.

The first step in building a comfortable wooden chair is the selection of the proper lumber; it should be of good quality and free of knots and spots. After the lumber is chosen, it is cut into various lengths for the chair's back, seat, and legs. Holes are then bored into the lumber for placing the support pieces. A good grade of glue is poured into the holes, and the pieces are placed into the correct holes and clamped while the glue dries. When the clamps are taken off, the chair is sanded until it is smooth. Finally, it is finished with paint or varnish.

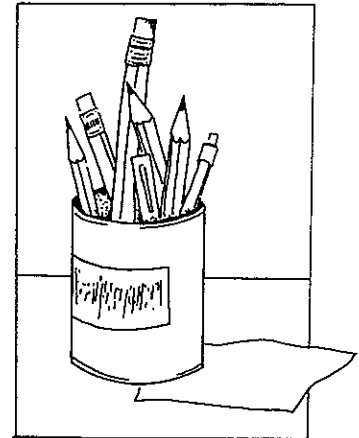
1. The wood is cut into several pieces.
2. The correct lumber is selected.
3. The chair is sanded.
4. The legs are glued.
5. The chair is painted.

REVIEW

UNIT 9 Lesson 2 Understanding Details

How did you do on lesson 1? Did you remember the steps in order? If you made some mistakes try to find out why you made them. If you need further help, ask your teacher.

If you found the story about chairs to be interesting, perhaps you will enjoy a similar story about the manufacture of pencils. You have used and sharpened a pencil—do you know how it is made? Read the next story to find this information. There are five steps listed in scrambled order at the end of the story. Rearrange them in proper order.



WHERE DO PENCILS COME FROM?

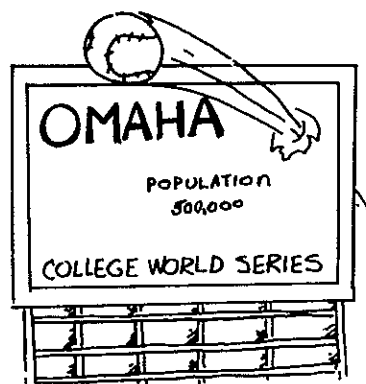
Nearly all people have used the common pencil. Do you know how it is made? The first step is to find a soft wood that will sharpen easily and hold the pencil lead. Most companies that make pencils prefer to use the Rocky Mountain red cedar and incense cedar trees which grow in the western and northwestern parts of the United States.

The next step involves making the center of the pencil, the part that marks the page. This material usually contains water, clay, and graphite. You have noticed that some pencils have harder leads than others. Soft pencils require graphite that contains less lead. Harder points require graphite that contains more lead.

The third step involves pouring the mixture into a mold for making it into a long straight string. It is then heated at a high temperature and later cooled in a bucket of melted wax.

Next, the lead strings are glued into the wood strips and left to dry. Later the pencil is smoothed with sandpaper and painted with a high-gloss paint. The last step is placing the metal head holding the rubber eraser on the end of the pencil.

1. Water, clay, and graphite are mixed.
2. The lead mixture is heated and later cooled.
3. The proper wood is found and cut for pencils.
4. The pencil is painted.
5. Lead strings are glued into the wood strips.



OMAHA, NEBRASKA: HOME OF THE COLLEGE WORLD SERIES

Have you ever been to Omaha, Nebraska? The city has an interesting history which is told in the selection below. Read the selection and rearrange the list of five events following it so they will be in proper time sequence. Be sure to check the answer key to see if you are right.

The river city of Omaha, Nebraska, was founded in 1854 just before the Civil War. During the next year, 1855, it was designated the capital of the Nebraska Territory. However, in 1867, when Nebraska was admitted as a state, the capital was moved to Lincoln where it is still located.

From 1854 to the present, Omaha has grown steadily in population, and the latest census indicates that the city and surrounding areas may contain 500,000 people. In the late 1800's, Omaha became a leading city on the Union Pacific Railroad. Today it is the headquarters for the Union Pacific Railroad Company.

Early in this century, Father Flanagan's famous Boys Town was established just west of Omaha. About the same time, the University of Nebraska was established in downtown Omaha. This university, now called the University of Nebraska at Omaha, enrolls about 15,000 students and is located in west central Omaha. Other universities and colleges in the city are Creighton University, College of St. Mary's, Grace College of the Bible, and Bellevue College. Omaha is also the home of the College World Series.

The eighth largest shopping center in the nation, Westroads, was established in Omaha in the late 1960's. It contains dozens of shops and stores. Other large shopping centers in the city are Crossroads and Southroads.

1. Omaha became a leading city on the Union Pacific Railroad.
2. The city of Omaha was founded.
3. Westroads shopping center was built.
4. Omaha became the capital of the Nebraska Territory.
5. The capital was moved to Lincoln.

HOW DID YOU DO?

